

MARVEL
COMICS



DAREDEVIL

MAY '97 364



DAREDEVIL

THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR

TAKING
BACK
THE
NIGHT!





EARLY MORNING.

I HAVEN'T SLEPT ALL NIGHT. I'VE BEEN SHOT AT, DIVE-BOMBED, TRICKED, BEAT ON, SCRAPED OFF, DRAGGED ALONG, AND SOAKED TO THE SKIN.

BUT ALL GOOD THINGS MUST END.

I'VE BEEN HERE **BEFORE**, OF COURSE. I SHOULD PROBABLY JUST COME HERE **EVERY TIME** A CRIME IS COMMITTED.

THE **KINGPIN'S PENTHOUSE OFFICE**, WFSK BUILDING.

WITH MY HEIGHTENED SENSES I CAN SMELL **OLD CIGARS** AND **NEW BLOOD** -- AND SOMETHING **SWEET** AND **COPPERY** THAT'S FAMILIAR, BUT...

...I GET DISTRACTED BY **POUNDING FEET** AND **TRIPHAMMER HEARTBEATS** THUNDERING UP THE HALL.



THINK WE DON'T GOT THIS PLACE **WIRED**, PUNK?

YOU'RE ROBBIN' THE **WRONG ROOST** -- **WHOEVER** YOU ARE!

THE **WELCOME WAGON**.

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

ALWAYS ENJOY
RUNNING INTO
DOM AND RENNY.

THEY WORK SO **HARD** AT
BEING TOUGH GUYS...
WISEGUYS... GOODFELLAS...

...MAKES YOU WISH THEY
WERE BETTER AT IT.

AIMING, FOR INSTANCE,
WOULD REALLY **IMPROVE**
THEIR SHOOTING.

A **BLIND** MAN COULD DO
BETTER. I SHOULD **KNOW**.

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

THEIR **BREATHING** IS QUICK
AND SHALLOW. THE SALTY
TANG OF **SWEAT** HANGS
JUST BELOW THE CORDITE.

THEY'RE **SCARED** -- AND
NOT OF SOME ALLEGED
THIEF THEY DIDN'T GET A
GOOD LOOK AT.

NO -- THEY'RE AFRAID
OF THEIR **BOSS**. THE
HYPER-CHARGED
INSOMNIA, MAYBE...

...OR SOMEONE
ELSE.



HOLD IT, RENNY!
THAT GUY --

Aw,
NO -- DON'T
TELL ME!
DON'T TELL
ME IT'S...

...DAREDEVIL...

THAT'S ALL
RIGHT...



...I'LL PUT THE FEAR
OF THE **DEVIL** IN
THEM SOON ENOUGH!

YOU
REALIZE, OF
COURSE...

...THIS
MEANS
WAR!

THEY HAD
BETTER
PRAY...

Stan Lee PRESENTS ANOTHER FAST AND FURIOUS
ADVENTURE OF THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

NO REST FOR THE WICKED!

KARL KESEL
WRITER

CARY NORD
PENCILER

MATT RYAN
INKER

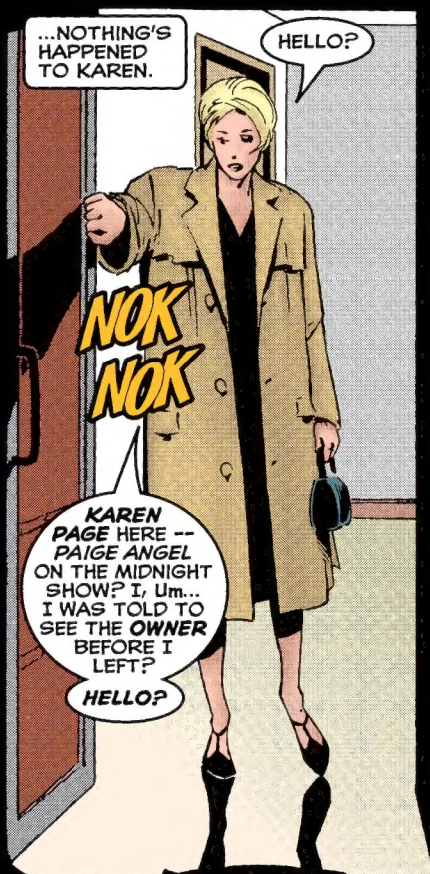
**CHRISTIE
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COLORIST

**RICHARD STARKINGS
& COMICRAFT/KF**
LETTERS

**AMERICAN COLOR
SEPARATIONS**

**JAYE
GARDNER**
EDITOR

**BOB
HARRAS**
CHIEF



...NOTHING'S
HAPPENED TO KAREN.

HELLO?

**NOK
NOK**

KAREN
PAGE HERE --
PAIGE ANGEL
ON THE MIDNIGHT
SHOW? I, Um...
I WAS TOLD TO
SEE THE OWNER
BEFORE I LEFT?

HELLO?



GREAT.
LIGHTS DON'T
EVEN WORK.

MUST
HAVE THE **WRONG**
OFF--

**KLK
KLK
KLK**

Oh, NO,
GIRLFRIEND --
YOU'RE **EXACTLY**
WHERE I WANT
YOU!

'THOUGH --
JUST BETWEEN **US** --
I'M NOT THE **REAL**
OWNER HERE. MORE
LIKE A... **PROXY**,
Y'KNOW?

SO,
THE **REASON**
WE NEED TO **TALK**
IS WFSK'S HAVING A
LITTLE... **DIFFICULTY**
WITH THIS GUY --
DAREDEVIL?

NOW,
ONE REASON
THE BIG BOSS **HIRED**
YOU IS 'CAUSE HE
SAID YOU'D BE **REAL...**
HELPFUL IF THIS
SORT OF THING
EVER --



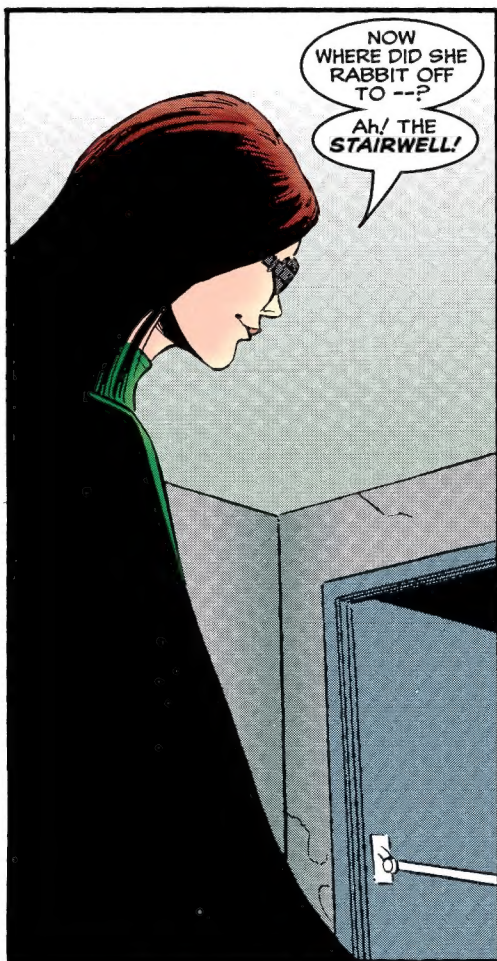
NO!

I
WON'T HELP
HIM, NOT
HIM!
EVER
AGAIN!



Oh,
GOOD!

AT
LEAST THIS
WON'T BE
BORING!



NOW
WHERE DID SHE
RABBIT OFF
TO --?
Ah! THE
STAIRWELL!

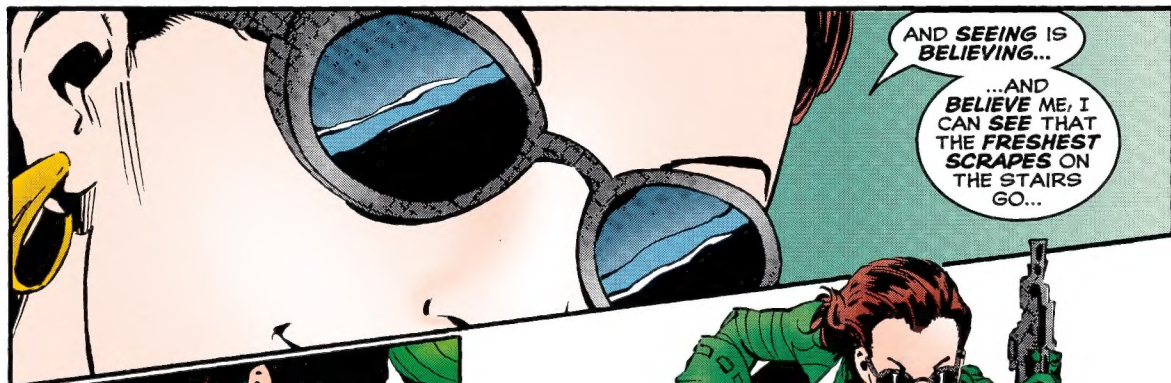


SMART
GIRL, KAREN!
NOW THE SIXTY-
FOUR ZILLION
DOLLAR QUESTION
IS -- UP OR
DOWN?

CHOICES,
CHOICES,
CHOICES...

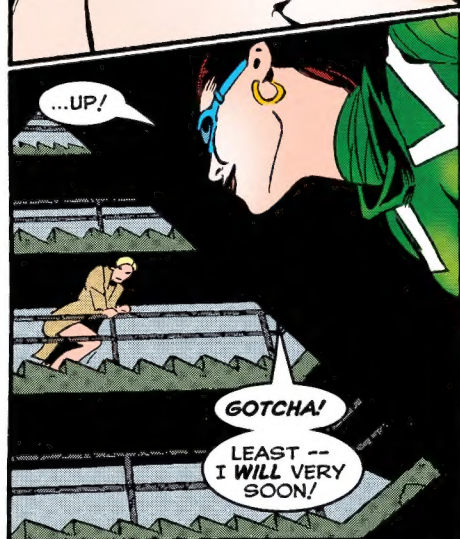
...FOR MOST
PEOPLE.

UNFORTUNATELY,
DARLING, *INSOMNIA*
KNOWS ALL --
INSOMNIA SEES
ALL!



AND *SEEING* IS
BELIEVING...

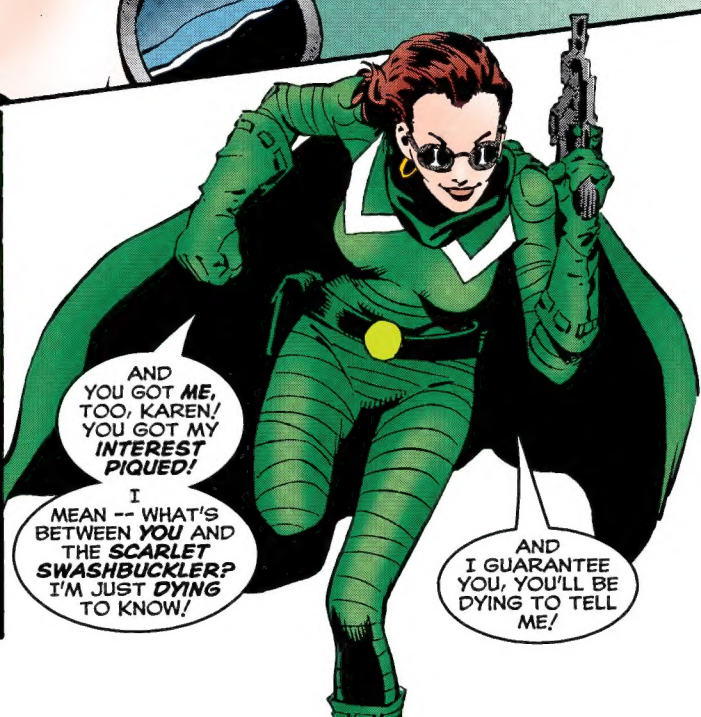
...AND
BELIEVE ME, I
CAN *SEE* THAT
THE *FRESHEST*
SCRAPES ON
THE STAIRS
GO...



...UP!

GOTCHA!

LEAST --
I WILL VERY
SOON!



AND
YOU GOT ME,
TOO, KAREN!
YOU GOT MY
INTEREST
PIQUED!

I
MEAN -- WHAT'S
BETWEEN YOU AND
THE *SCARLET*
SWASHBUCKLER?
I'M JUST DYING
TO KNOW!

AND
I GUARANTEE
YOU, YOU'LL BE
DYING TO TELL
ME!



ANSWER
THE PHONE,
LIZ.

PLEASE --
PICK UP FOR ME...
PICK UP FOR
FOGGY...

**VERRING
VERRING
VERRING
VERRING**



Uhhh...
SHE'S **AVOIDING**
ME, DEUCE. THE ONE
WOMAN WHO MEANS
ANYTHING TO ME
WON'T ANSWER
MY CALLS.

BEEN
CALLING **ALL**
NIGHT -- BET **THAT'S**
REAL ENDEARING,
HUH? PROBABLY
UNPLUGGED HER
PHONE **HOURS**
AGO...

JUST
WANNA EXPLAIN
WHAT SHE SAW AT THE
LUNA LOUNGE, THAT'S
ALL. JUST WANNA
STRAIGHTEN THINGS
OUT BETWEEN ME
AND --



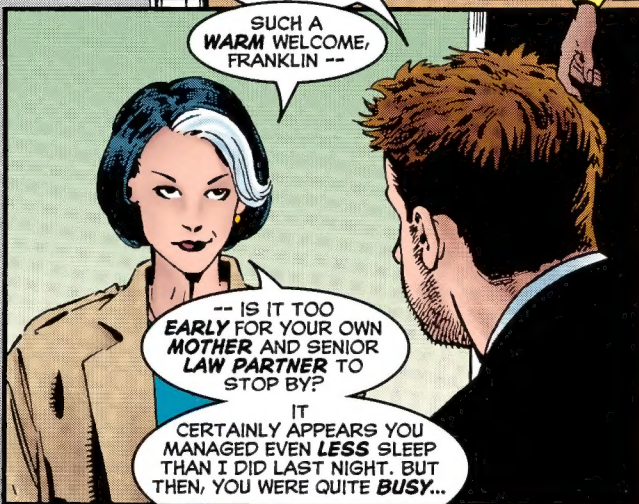
NOK NOK

-- LIZ?!

CAN'T
TELL YOU HOW
GLAD I AM
YOU CAME
O--

WOFF

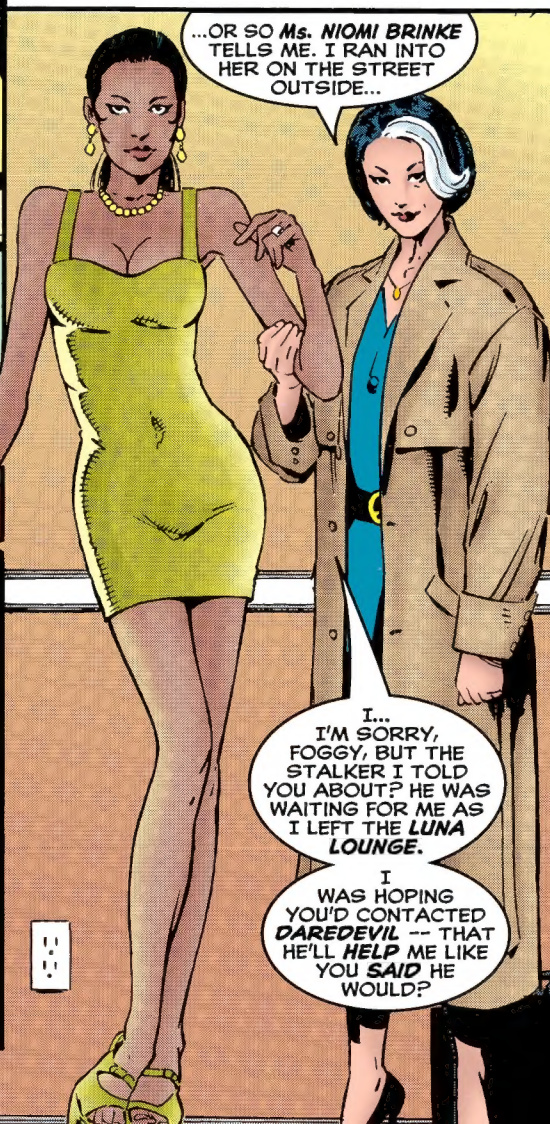
Oh.
ROSALIND.



SUCH A
WARM WELCOME,
FRANKLIN --

-- IS IT TOO
EARLY FOR YOUR OWN
MOTHER AND SENIOR
LAW PARTNER TO
STOP BY?

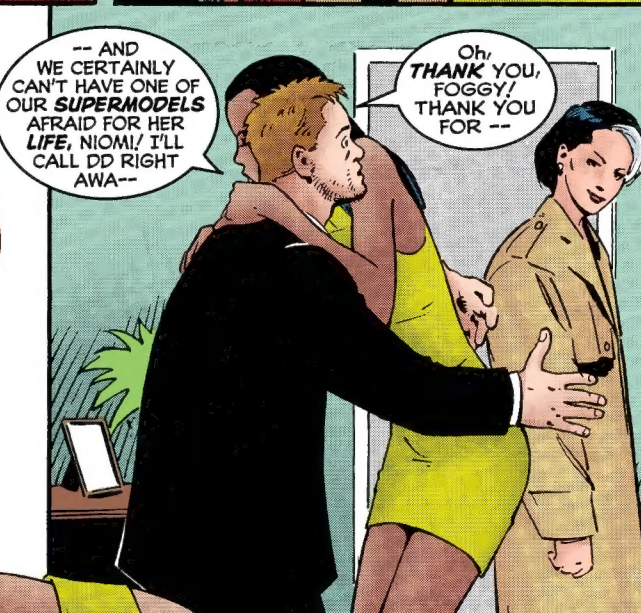
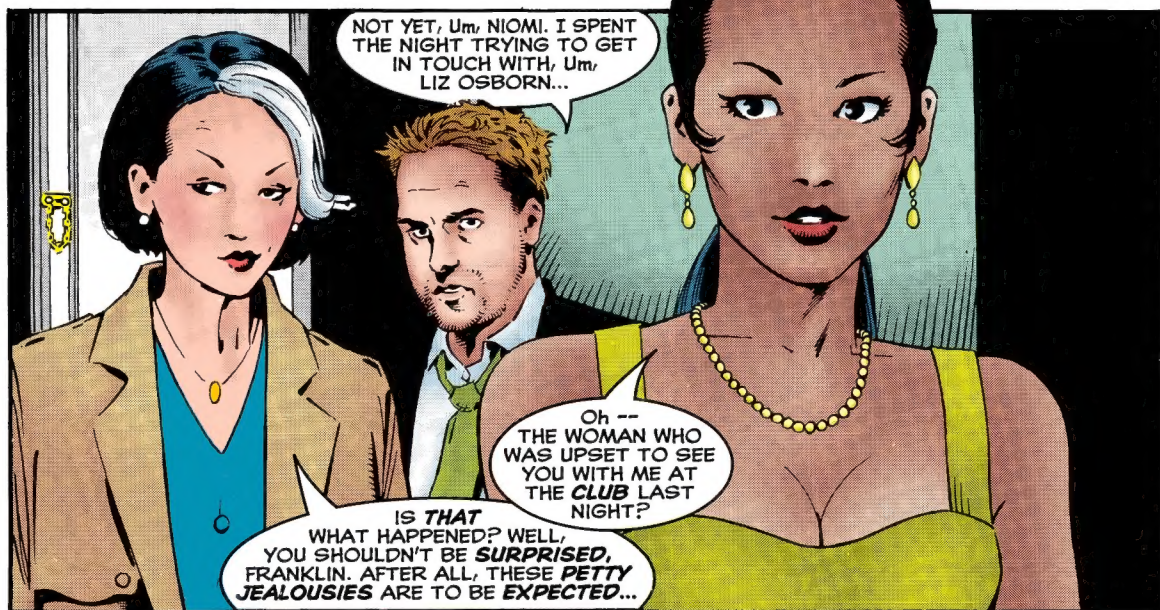
IT
CERTAINLY APPEARS YOU
MANAGED EVEN **LESS** SLEEP
THAN I DID LAST NIGHT. BUT
THEN, YOU WERE QUITE **BUSY**...

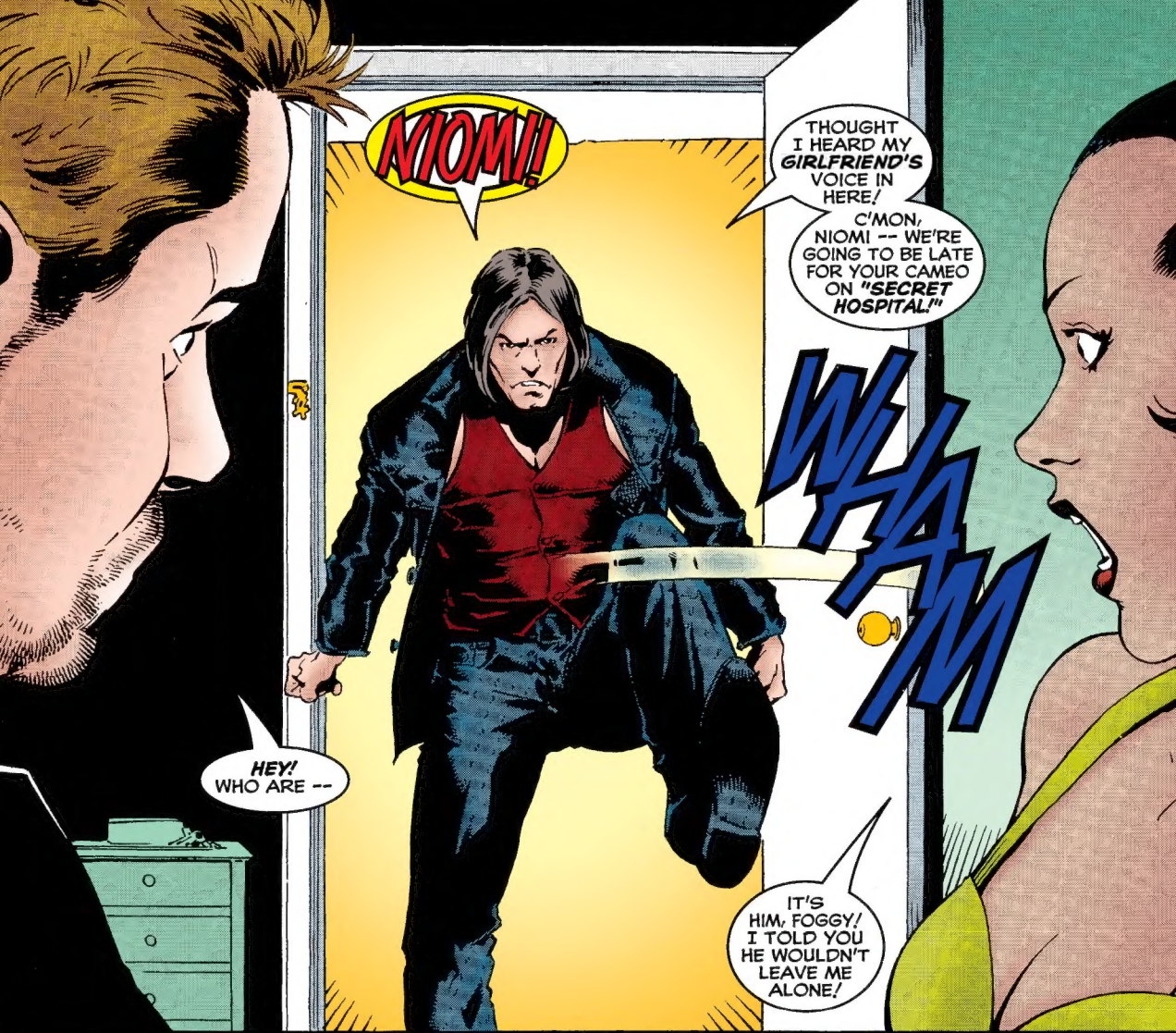


...OR SO **Ms. NIOMI BRINKE**
TELLS ME. I RAN INTO
HER ON THE STREET
OUTSIDE...

I...
I'M SORRY,
FOGGY, BUT THE
STALKER I TOLD
YOU ABOUT? HE WAS
WAITING FOR ME AS
I LEFT THE **LUNA LOUNGE**.

I
WAS HOPING
YOU'D CONTACTED
DAREDEVIL -- THAT
HE'LL **HELP** ME LIKE
YOU **SAID** HE
WOULD?





NIOMI!!

THOUGHT I HEARD MY **GIRLFRIEND'S** VOICE IN HERE!

C'MON, NIOMI -- WE'RE GOING TO BE LATE FOR YOUR **CAMEO** ON "**SECRET HOSPITAL**!"

WHAM

HEY! WHO ARE --

IT'S HIM, FOGGY! I TOLD YOU HE WOULDN'T LEAVE ME ALONE!



THAT'S **RIGHT**, NIOMI -- I PAY **ATTENTION** TO YOU! I **WORSHIP** YOU! THAT'S WHAT YOU **WANT**! THAT'S WHY YOU **DO** WHAT YOU **DO**!

BUT AFTER ALL I'VE GIVEN YOU -- **THIS** IS HOW YOU TREAT ME? WELL, I'M **TIRED** OF IT! IT'S **OVER** BETWEEN US!



TIME TO SAY **GOOD-BYE!**

Oh GOD! Oh GOD -- WHAT'S HAPPENING? WHAT DO I DO?

WHAT WOULD **MATT** -- WHAT WOULD **DAREDEVIL** DO? HE'D... HE'D...



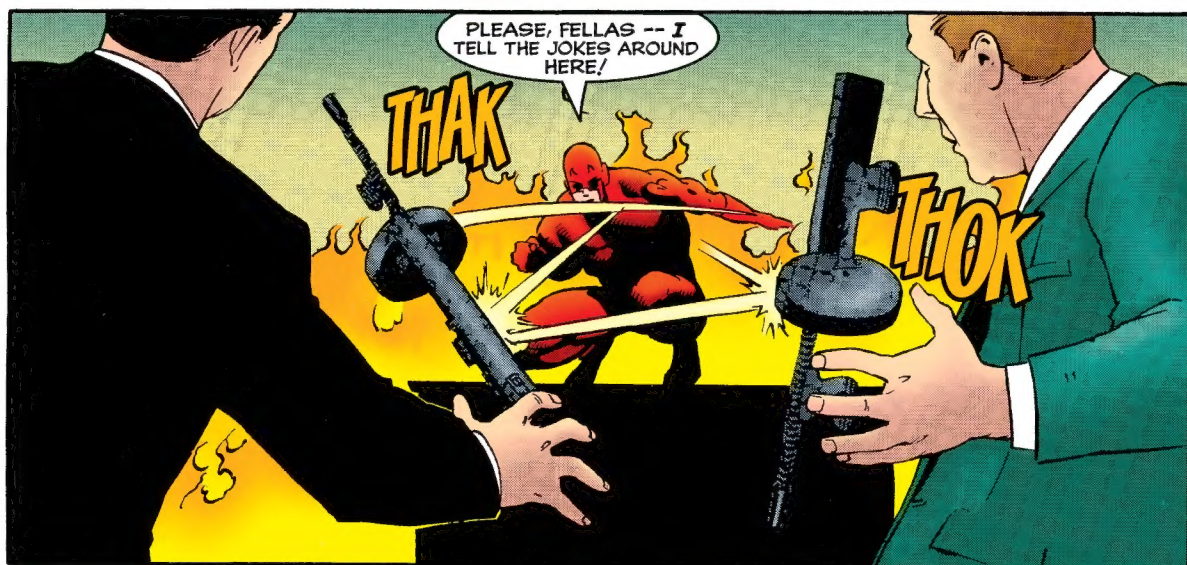
RUN!

WHAT DO YOU THINK **YOU'RE** DOING, **FAT BOY**?

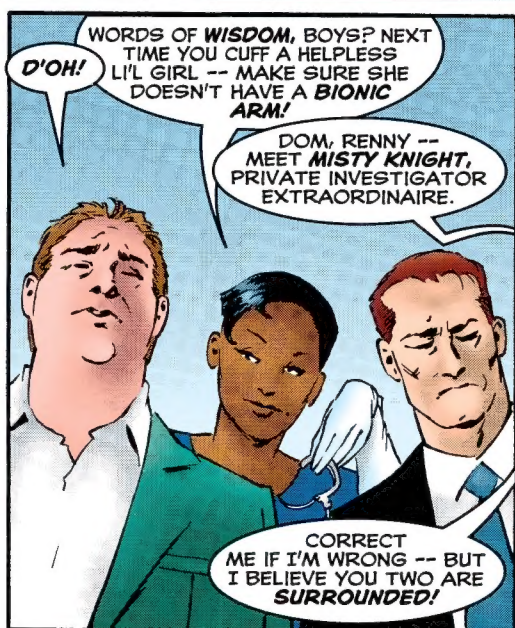
MEANWHILE...

YOU
AIN'T GONNA
DO NOTHIN',
DEVIL!

YEAH --
WE GOT YOU IN
OUR SIGHTS **NOW!**
SO YOU'RE GONNA
COME **QUIET-LIKE,**
OR ME AN' DOM,
WE'LL --



YEAH!
YEAH, WE GOT
A **HOSTAGE**
AN --



DOM, RENNY --
MEET **MISTY KNIGHT,**
PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR
EXTRAORDINAIRE.

CORRECT
ME IF I'M WRONG -- BUT
I BELIEVE YOU TWO ARE
SURROUNDED!



NOW THAT YOU'RE UNDER CONTROL -- LET'S SEE IF I CAN DO THE SAME WITH THIS FIRE.

NORMALLY I'D ABSORB THESE FLAMES WITH HELLFIRE -- BUT IT'S BEEN A LONG NIGHT, SO...

FWSSSHH

TOLD YA WE NEVER SHOULD'A HOOKED UP WITH THAT PSYCHO DAME, DOM! I TOLD YA!

NOW, NOW, GENTLEMEN -- YOU CAN'T FOOL THE DEVIL! I KNOW INSOMNIA ANSWERS TO SOMEONE... BIGGER.

WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME IS WHAT'S GOING ON -- AND WHY SHE'S STEALING ALL THOSE CHEMICALS.

HEY, WE AIN'T GONNA RAT OUT --

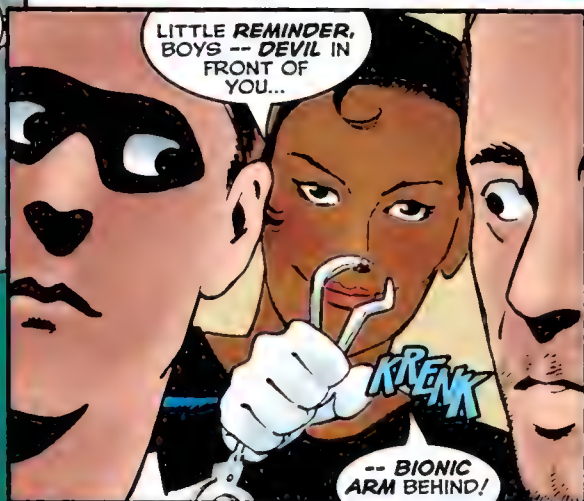


OKAY -- OKAY, INSOMNIA DON'T SLEEP AND SHE THINKS THAT'S GOOD SO SHE DON'T WANT NO ONE TO SLEEP!

WE PIGGY-BACKED LOW-FREQUENCIES WITH THE PAIGE ANGEL SHOW. THE MORE LISTENERS, THE HARDER IT GOT TO SLEEP.

TRANSMITTER'S ON THE ROOF. THE CHEMICALS WERE FOR PART TWO -- SOME SORT'A NERVE GAS.

YOU SCREWED THAT, DEVIL -- SO FOR SOME REASON THE BOSS HAD INSOMNIA CALL PAIGE ANGEL INTO HER OFFICE...



LITTLE REMINDER, BOYS -- DEVIL IN FRONT OF YOU...

KREK

-- BIONIC ARM BEHIND!



I'LL CHECK THE OFFICE, DD -- I KNOW WHERE THAT IS ALL TOO WELL.

... ALL RIGHT, MISTY. I'LL DEAL WITH THE TRANSMITTER...



...BUT IF ANYTHING'S HAPPENED TO THAT ANGEL -- YOU TWO ARE NEXT!

DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE HOW MUCH I ENJOY LISTENING TO HER VOICE!



THE
ROOF?
BLAST!

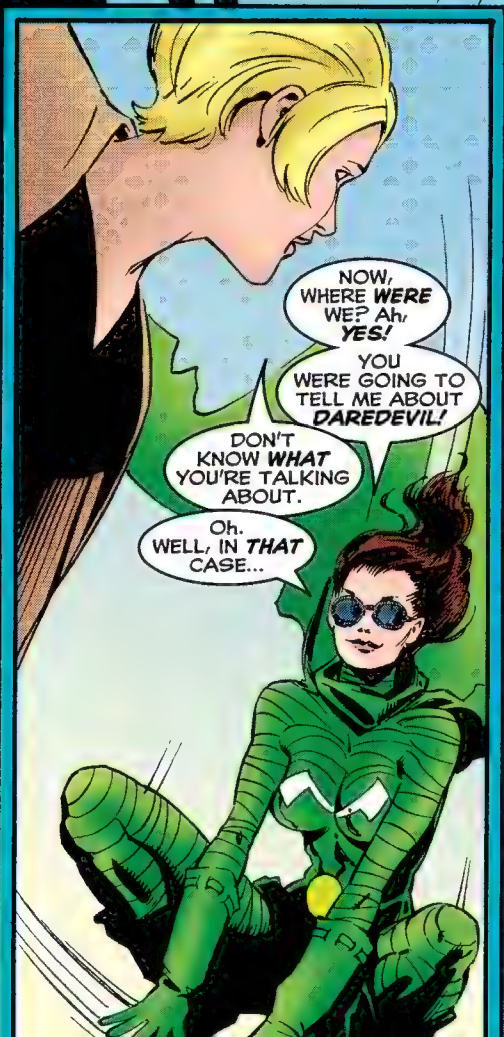
SHOULD'VE...
SHOULD'VE GOTTEN
OUT ON ONE OF THE...
FLOORS... BUT
INSOMNIA'S RIGHT
BEHIND --



NOT
ANY MORE,
DARLING!
**HEADS
UP!**

DON'T
LET THE **CAPE**
FOOL YOU -- JUST
AN ADRENALIN-JUICED
JUMP SOME FIFTEEN
FEET INTO THE
AIR!

AND
EVERYONE
MAKES SUCH
A **BIG DEAL**
ABOUT **KERRI
STRUG!**

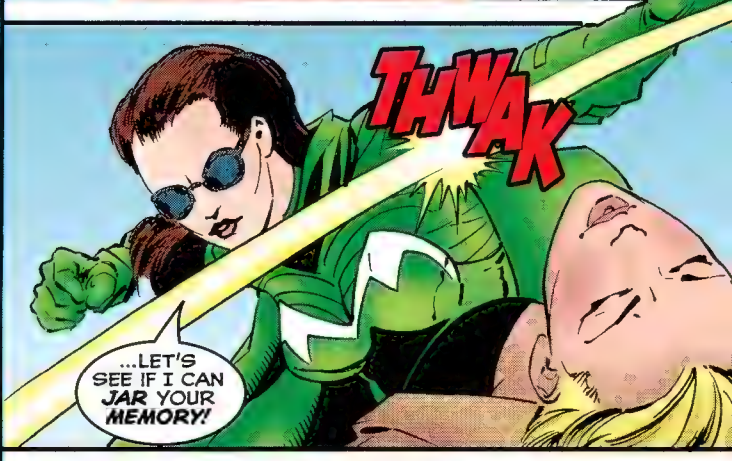


NOW,
WHERE **WERE**
WE? Ah,
YES!

YOU
WERE GOING TO
TELL ME ABOUT
DAREDEVIL!

DON'T
KNOW **WHAT**
YOU'RE TALKING
ABOUT.

Oh.
WELL, IN **THAT**
CASE...



...LET'S
SEE IF I CAN
**JAR YOUR
MEMORY!**



YOU'RE BEGINNING
TO BORE ME,
KAREN.

TIME
TO MAKE THINGS
A LITTLE MORE
INTERESTING...





HOW
DO YOU *LIKE* IT --
HANGING OFF MY
SPECIAL **TRANSMITTER**
SOME FORTY FLOORS
ABOVE STREET
LEVEL?

WHERE
ANGELS FEAR
TO **TREAD**, Huh --
ESPECIALLY WHEN
THEY'VE GOT **NO
WINGS!**

THINK
YOU'RE SCARED
NOW? WAIT TILL
YOU GET A WHIFF
OF **THIS!**

PAF

NOW, WHY
DON'T YOU TELL ME
EVERYTHING ABOUT
DAREDEVIL....

...BEFORE
WE FIND OUT
THAT **CABLE** CAN'T
SUPPORT YOUR
WEIGHT FOR VERY
LONG!

D-DAREDEVIL...

...DAREDEVIL...
IS... IS
REALLY...

...GOING
TO KICK YOUR
BUTT!

WHY?
SHE'S
RIGHT.

NO!
DON'T LET ME
FALL -- DON'T
LET ME **DIE!**
I'LL TELL!

I'LL
TELL...

...HE'S
REALLY...

Oh,
KAREN -- I AM
SO DISAPPOINTED
IN YOU.

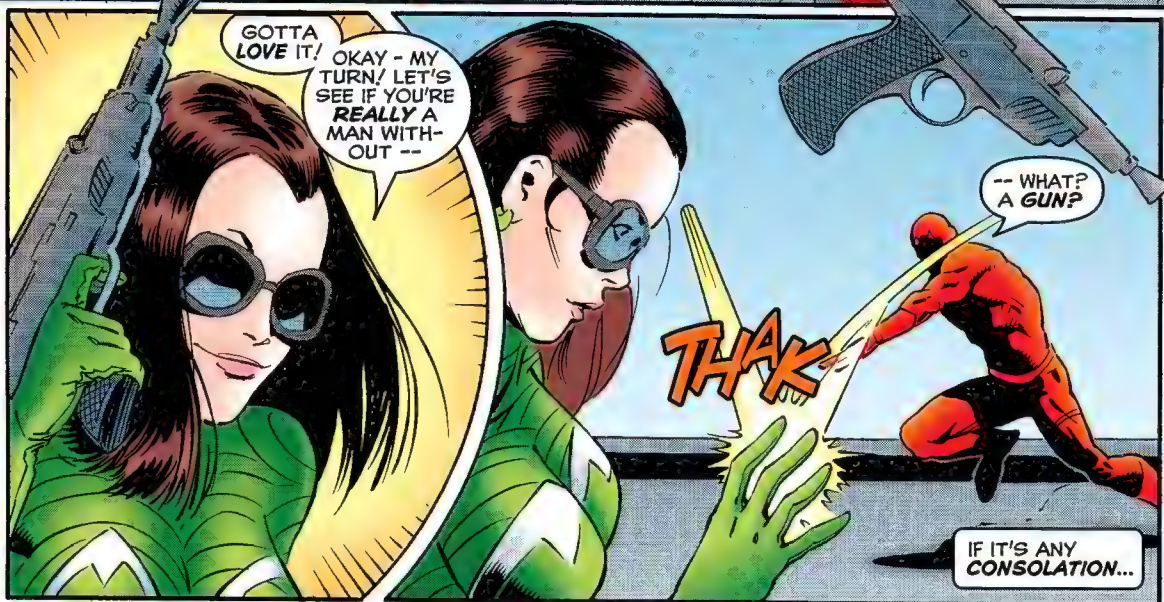
INSOMNIA'S ADRENAL-CHARGED BODY IS STRONGER, FASTER, AND **TOUGHER** THAN A NORMAL PERSON'S.

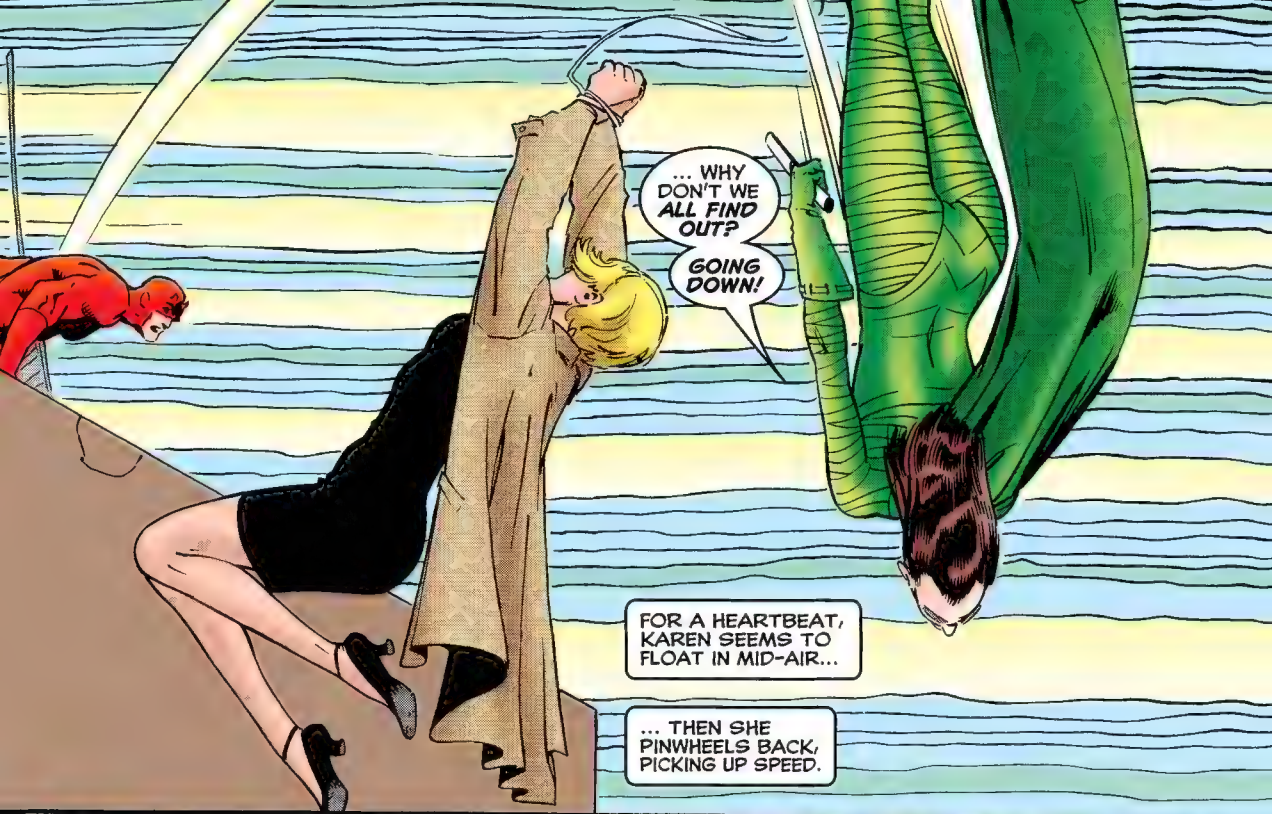
SHE GOES REELING INTO THE **TRANSMITTER**, TAKING IT OUT OF COMMISSION, ... EXACTLY LIKE I PLANNED.

ALL RIGHT -- I **ADMIT** IT. ALL I'M **THINKING** ABOUT IS KAREN.

SO... MAYBE I GOT **LUCKY**.

KWAMM





... WHY
DON'T WE
ALL FIND
OUT?
GOING
DOWN!

FOR A HEARTBEAT,
KAREN SEEMS TO
FLOAT IN MID-AIR...

... THEN SHE
PINWHEELS BACK,
PICKING UP SPEED.



I DON'T EVEN *THINK*
ABOUT DIVING *AFTER*
HER -- I JUST *DO*.

Hmm...
NOW WHAT'S
THIS BUTTON
FOR --?

IT'S A REFLEX...
A NECESSITY...




WHOA!



ALMOST DON'T
NOTICE INSOMNIA
ESCAPING.

COOL TOY,
DD! I'LL ALWAYS
THINK OF YOU
FONDLY WHEN
I USE IT!

FREEFALL CERTAINLY
HELPS YOU *PRIORITIZE*.



FORTY STORIES UP. NO NET.
NOT EVEN A *BILLY CLUB* THIS
TIME -- JUST TO MAKE THINGS
INTERESTING.

THIS IS HOW
I *LIKE* IT...

... I KEEP
TELLING
MYSELF.

KAREN...

...NOW, *KAREN*
CAN PROBABLY
THINK OF *BETTER*
THINGS TO DO.

I *STREAMLINE* MY BODY,
TRYING TO *CLOSE*
THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US,
TRYING TO PROVE I CAN
USE *ANY* LAW TO MY
ADVANTAGE...

...EVEN THE LAW
OF *GRAVITY*.

KAREN FLAILS, *HELPLESS*, HER
COAT SNAPPING *ANGRILY* IN
THE WIND, AND FOR *ONCE* -
FOR THE *ONLY* TIME...

...I'M GLAD
I *CAN'T* SEE
HER FACE.

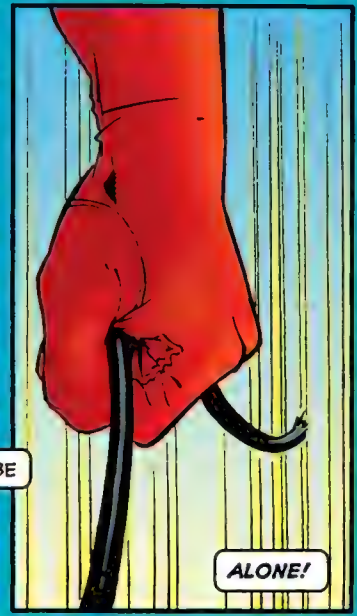


WHATEVER
HAPPENS NEXT.

SHE

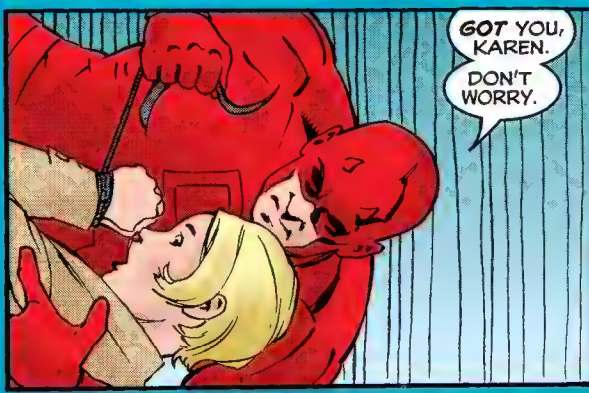


WILL NOT



BE

ALONE!



GOT YOU,
KAREN.
DON'T
WORRY.



JUST
ANOTHER
DAY AT THE
OFFICE FOR
ME.

WHU --
WHAT'RE YOU
GOING TO
DO?



I FILTER OUT THE
WIND RUSHING
PAST MY EARS.

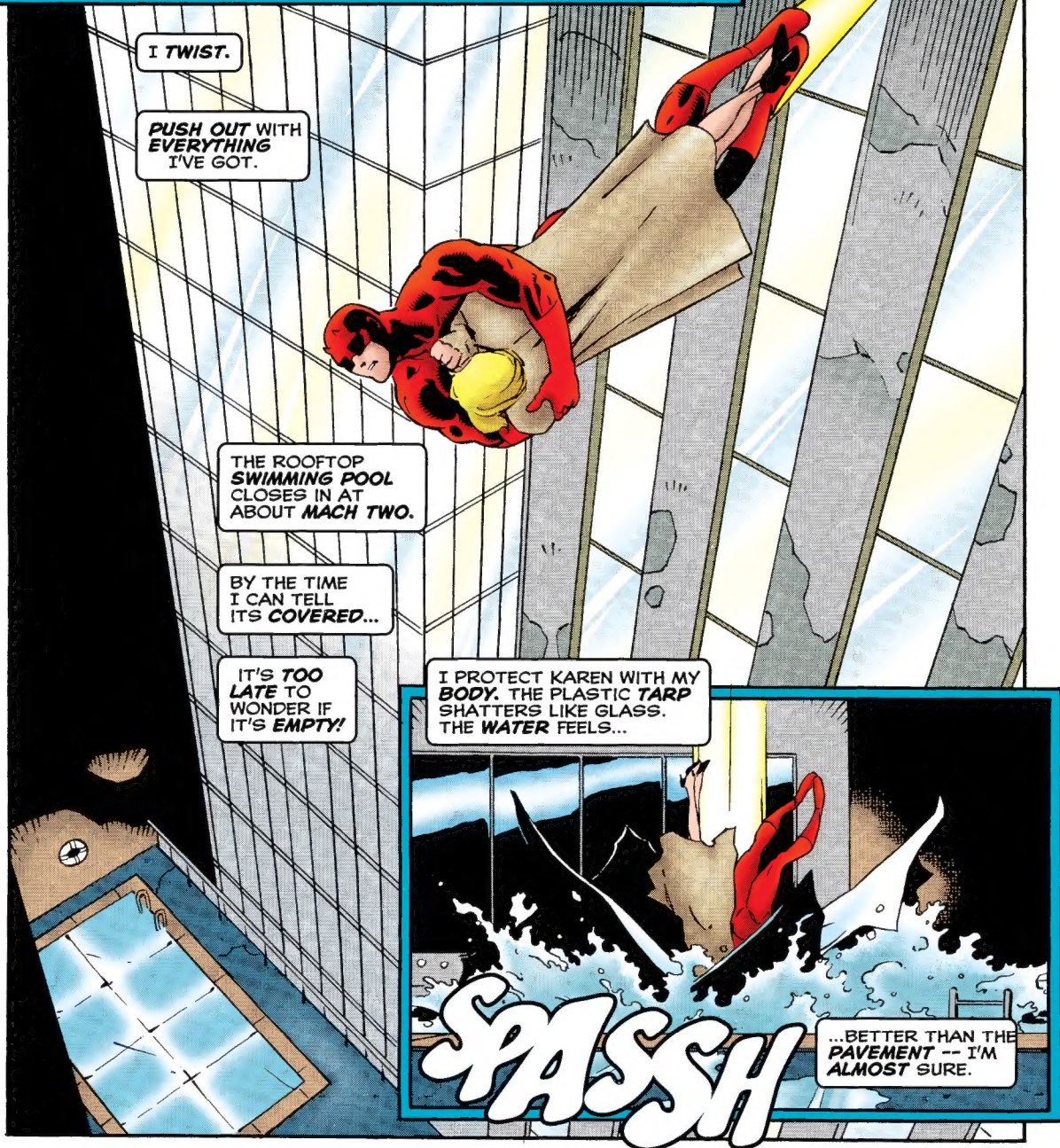
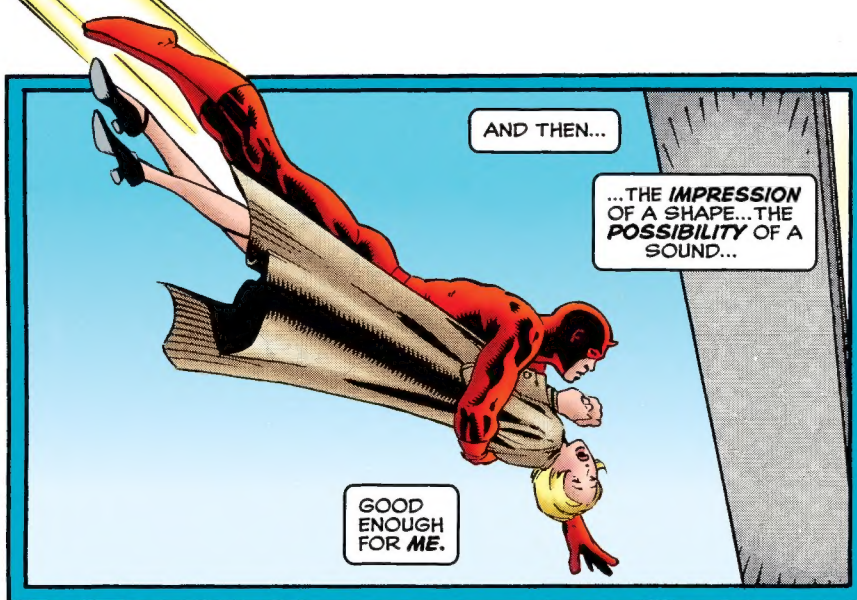
I IGNORE
KAREN'S
DEAFENING
HEARTBEAT.

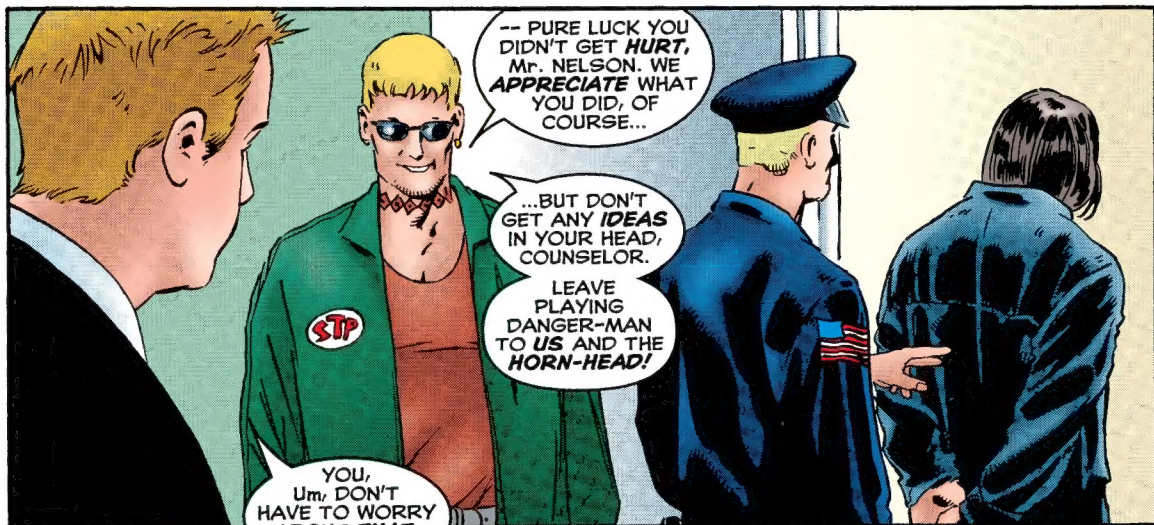
I REACH OUT WITH MY **RADAR
SENSE**, TRYING TO FIND THE
RIGHT **LEDGE** OR **FLAGPOLE** --
SOMETHING THAT'LL **SAVE**
US WITHOUT **KILLING** US.

BUT THE TRUTH IS,
WE'RE MOVING **TOO
FAST**. THERE'RE
ONLY **SECONDS...**

EVERYTHING
I CAN.

... AND NO
**SECOND
CHANCES**.



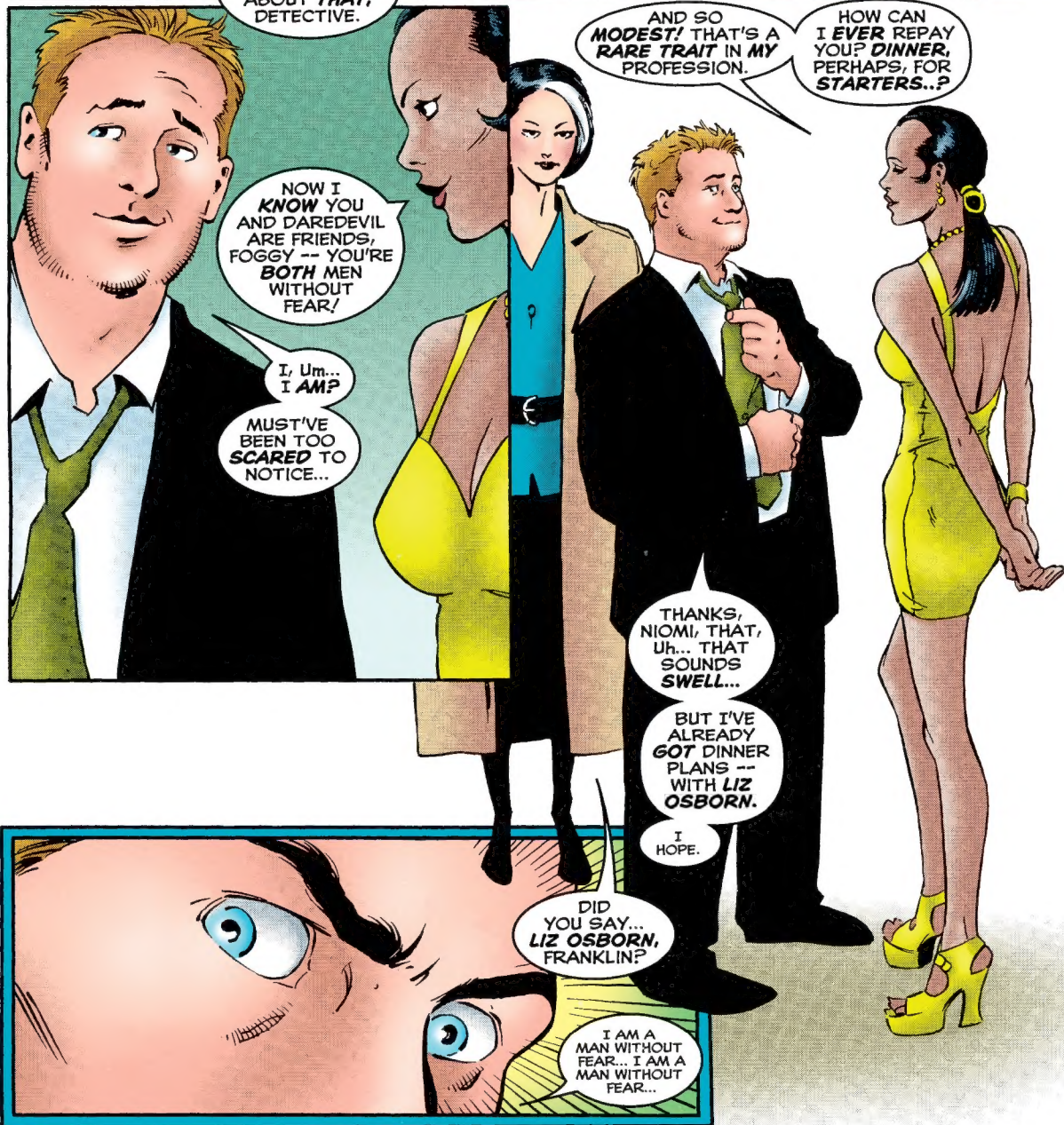


-- PURE LUCK YOU DIDN'T GET **HURT**, MR. NELSON. WE **APPRECIATE** WHAT YOU DID, OF COURSE...

...BUT DON'T GET ANY **IDEAS** IN YOUR HEAD, COUNSELOR.

LEAVE PLAYING DANGER-MAN TO **US** AND THE **HORN-HEAD!**

YOU, UM, DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT **THAT**, DETECTIVE.



AND SO **MODEST!** THAT'S A **RARE TRAIT** IN MY PROFESSION.

HOW CAN I **EVER** REPAY YOU? **DINNER**, PERHAPS, FOR **STARTERS...?**

NOW I **KNOW** YOU AND DAREDEVIL ARE FRIENDS, FOGGY -- YOU'RE **BOTH** MEN WITHOUT FEAR!

I, UM... I **AMP?**

MUST'VE BEEN TOO **SCARED** TO NOTICE...

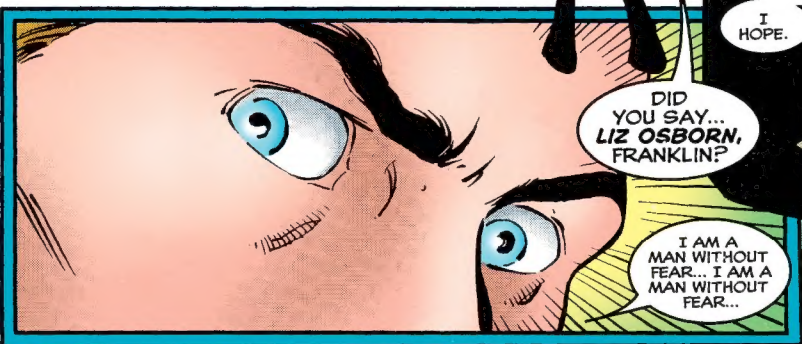
THANKS, NIOMI, THAT, Uh... THAT SOUNDS **SWELL...**

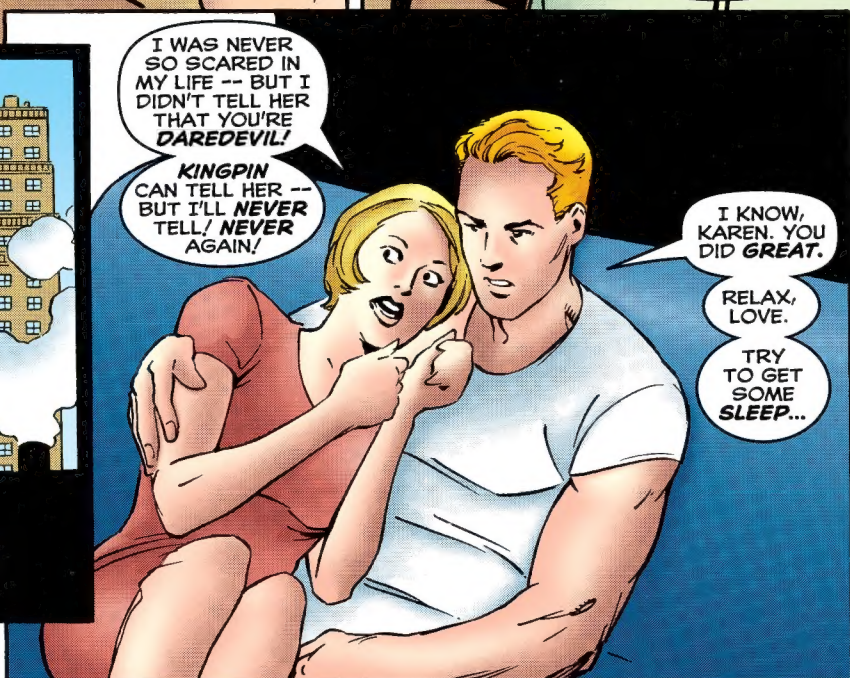
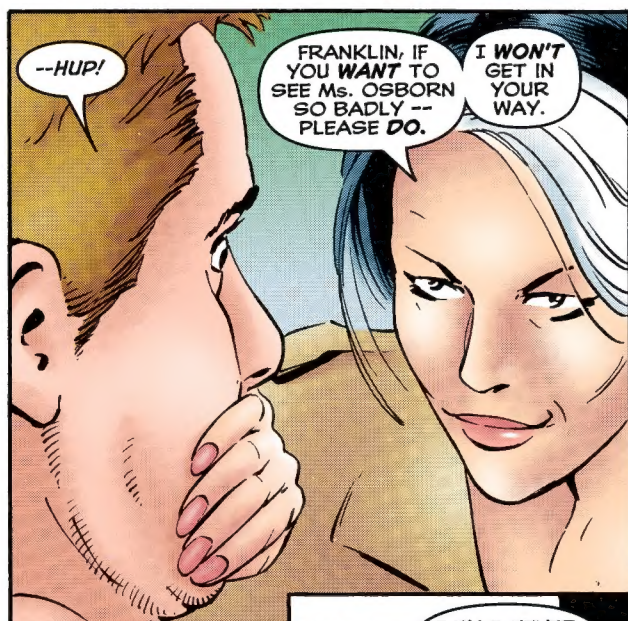
BUT I'VE ALREADY **GOT** DINNER PLANS -- WITH **LIZ OSBORN**.

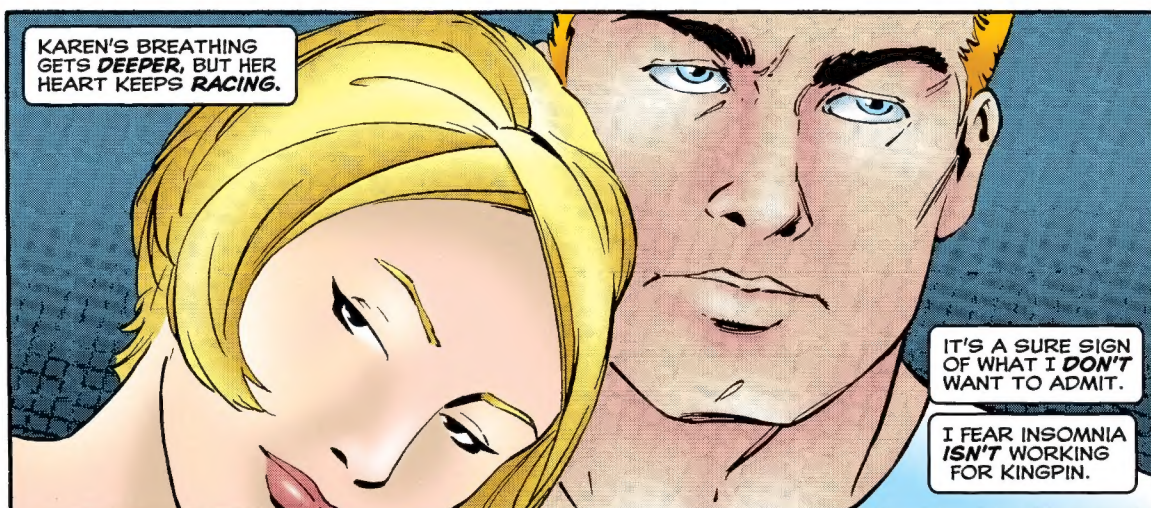
I **HOPE.**

DID YOU SAY... **LIZ OSBORN**, FRANKLIN?

I AM A MAN WITHOUT FEAR... I AM A MAN WITHOUT FEAR...







KAREN'S BREATHING GETS **DEEPER**, BUT HER HEART KEEPS **RACING**.

IT'S A SURE SIGN OF WHAT I **DON'T** WANT TO ADMIT.

I FEAR INSOMNIA **ISN'T** WORKING FOR KINGPIN.

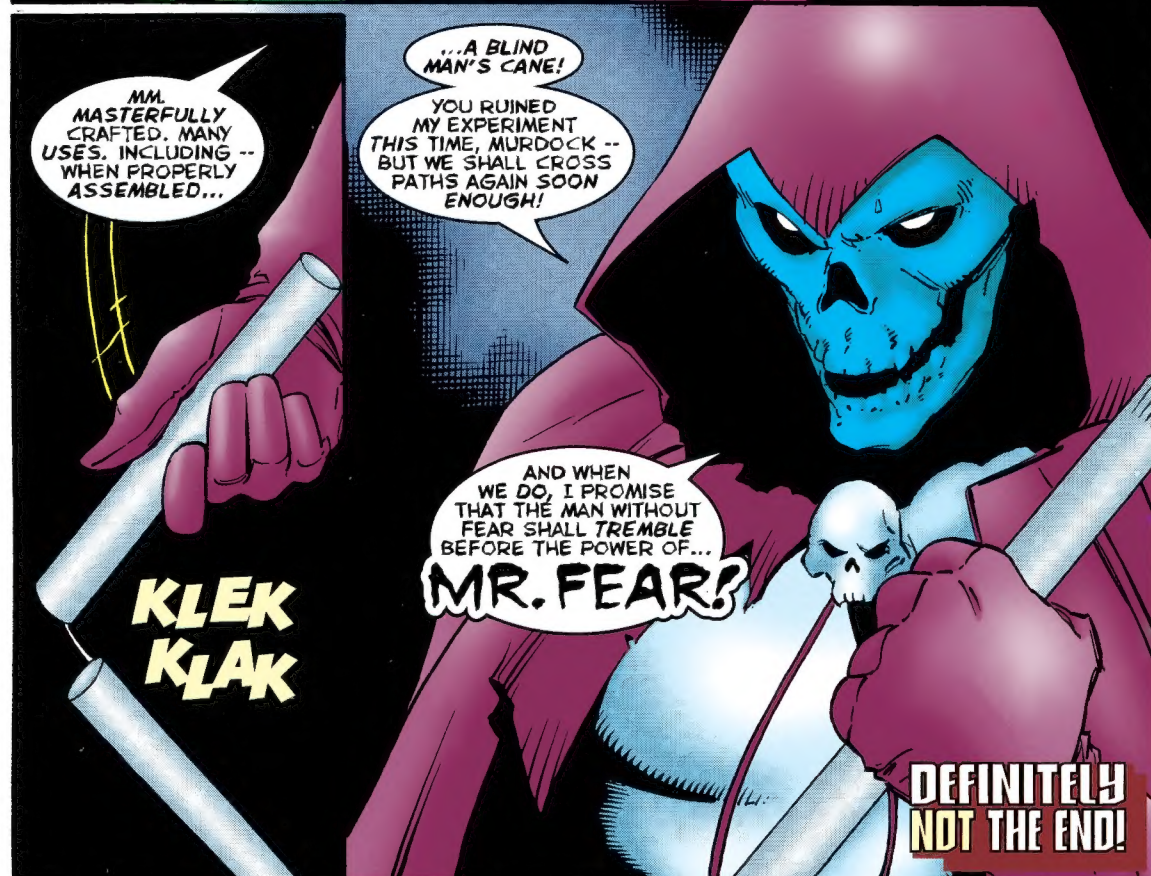


THE KEY WORD BEING "**FEAR**."

PRESENT FOR YOU --
Oh, GREAT MASTER!

DAREDEVIL'S WEAPON. AT LEAST THE NIGHT WASN'T A TOTAL WASTE.

GIVE IT TO ME AND **BEGONE!**



MM. MASTERFULLY CRAFTED. MANY USES. INCLUDING -- WHEN PROPERLY ASSEMBLED...

...A BLIND MAN'S CANE!

YOU RUINED MY EXPERIMENT THIS TIME, MURDOCK -- BUT WE SHALL CROSS PATHS AGAIN SOON ENOUGH!

AND WHEN WE DO, I PROMISE THAT THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR SHALL TREMBLE BEFORE THE POWER OF...

MR. FEAR?

**KLEK
KLAK**

**DEFINITELY
NOT THE END!**